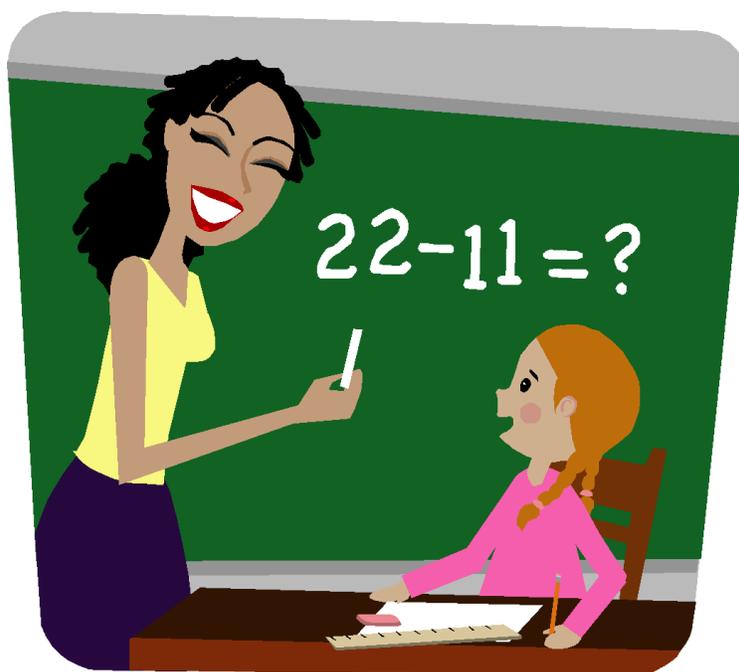


Second Grade Handbook



Everything you and your family need to
know about second grade

Welcome to Second Grade

We are so pleased to be starting a new school year as your child's teachers. This year will be an exciting year of tremendous academic and personal growth. We look forward to working with you and your family to make this year as rewarding as possible. We need you to encourage your child at home by helping to ensure that they have completed their assignments, to practice skills that they are learning, and to read with them every day. We all need to be partners in the learning process!

In this handbook you will find information that you will need throughout the year.

Contacting Your Teacher

We are available daily (before or after school) to discuss your child's progress. Please use the contact information below to schedule a meeting. You must have an appointment to meet so that we are fully prepared with your child's grades, information, etc. You can contact us by calling the school or emailing us. We will get back to you within 48 hours.

Teacher	Email	Room #	Phone #
Mr. Gibb	sgibb@pppcs.org	213	410-558-1230 ext. 308
Mrs. Castine	rcastine@pppcs.org	216	410-558-1230 ext. 318
Ms. Wilkins	twilkins@pppcs.org	214	410-558-1230 ext. 364
Mrs. Hendrick	ahendrick@pppcs.org	211	410-558-1230 ext. 357

Curriculum Overview

In second grade we will learn a lot of new things! Below is an outline of skills we will cover in math, reading, social studies and science.

Math:

- Place Value
- Addition & Subtraction with 2 and 3 digit numbers
- Measurement & Data collection
- Time & Money
- Problem solving
- Multiplication readiness
- Fractions
- 2 and 3 dimensional shapes

Reading:

- Vocabulary
- Writing Skills
- Reading Strategies
- Comprehension Skills
- Word Study Skills

Social Studies/Science:

	Social Studies	Science
Theme 1 We are a Community	- Character Education - Communities and Local Government - Mexican Culture	- Biodiversity - Habitats
Theme 2 Changes over Time	- Baltimore's Past - Chinese Culture	- Changes to the Land
Theme 3 Around the Earth	- African Cultures	- Properties of Matter (solids, liquids, gases)
Theme 4 Circle of Life	- Economics	- Life Cycles

Field Trips

Throughout the year we will go on field trips to enhance what we are learning in the classroom. Some of the field trips we are planning this year are:

- Great Kids Farm
- Baltimore Museum of Industry
- Audubon
- Arts on Stage
- Walters Art Museum
- National Aquarium
- Zoo-Mobile

In order to go on these field trips students need to:

- **demonstrate responsible behavior in the classroom**
- **hand in a permission slip and money**
- **have good attendance**

We love to have parent chaperones on our field trips. For certain trips, we will only be able to bring a specific number of chaperones. Chaperones will be picked for these trips on a first come first serve basis. Check Parent Square to volunteer.

When chaperoning on a trip please keep these guidelines in mind:

- You are in charge of your assigned group.
- You are responsible for the safety of your group. Please ensure that the students follow the school and field trip rules at all times.
- Please do not buy souvenirs/gifts for your group.

Behavior

The following classroom expectations are designed to support a positive learning environment. Please review them with your child.

Student expectations:

Students will follow the Community Agreements of Patterson Park Public Charter School. Students must show:

- Attentive Listening
- Appreciation, not put downs
- The Right to Participate and the Right to Pass
- Mutual Respect

- Be ready to learn and work

Rewards for appropriate behavior are:

- Academic success and personal satisfaction
- Opportunities to attend every field trip
- Verbal praise
- Participation in group rewards- such as extra recess, movie and popcorn, a trip to the playground
- Prizes from the prize box

Consequences for not following the rules:

In our classroom we use the stoplight system. All students start their day on green and are able to move up and down the stoplight according to their behavior.

- First infraction- verbal warning
- Second infraction- move to yellow, 5 minutes in the “chill out” chair
- Third infraction- move to orange, 5 minutes in a buddy teacher’s classroom
- Students may move back up to green at any time when they behave appropriately unless they are on red

If a child injures another child, or continues inappropriate behavior he/she will automatically move to red, and will be referred to the office. If warranted he/she will have a conference with the principal or parents and teacher.

There is a behavior calendar in your child’s homework folder. Please initial it every night. Students that are on blue or green every day in a month will earn a classroom reward.

Homework

All second graders have a green homework folder. This folder will hold homework, parent paperwork, as well as your child's behavior calendar. Students can expect to have homework every week. All homework is assigned on Monday and due the following Monday. Please look in your child's homework folder for specific assignments and reminders about school events, and sign your child's homework sheet every night. It is your child's responsibility to hand in their homework and make sure it is completed. Students who show a pattern of missing or late homework will lose homework points.

In addition, we expect that all students spend at least 20 minutes reading every night. This is an essential part of helping your child become a better reader. The local library is a great resource for books and the children love visiting. Please document your child's reading on the homework sheet and initial every night.

Homework is very important because it builds responsibility and reinforces the concepts that are taught in class. Homework is not new learning but practice of already introduced skills. If you have any questions about homework, please write a note, send an e-mail or schedule a conference with your child's teacher.

Ways to help your child with their homework:

- Have a quiet and comfortable place for them to sit down and do their work without distractions.
- Set a routine. Do homework the same time every night. For example at 4:00 or any other agreed upon time.
- Participate and support your child but do **not do their homework for them!**

Homework counts as 10% of your child's grade. Please make sure completed homework is returned to school weekly.

Second Grade Schedule

Teacher	Monday	Tuesday	Thursday	Friday
Castine	Gym	Art	Music	Orch Kids/ Media
Gibb	Art	Music	Gym/ Media	Orch Kids
Hendrick	Music	Media	Gym	Orch Kids/Art
Wilkins	Media	Gym	Art	Orch Kids/ Music

Lateness/ Absences

Second grade is a very important year for fine-tuning reading skills. Students need to be in school EVERY day. School starts at **7:55** and students start learning right away. Students need to be here on time every day. Free breakfast is available every day at 7:30 in the cafeteria.

If your child misses a day of school, please send in a note explaining your child's absence so that he/she will be marked "excused". If your child is going to be absent for a long amount of time, please see your child's teacher for work he/she will miss.

Parent Volunteers

We love having parent volunteers help out in our classrooms. If you would like to volunteer to work in a classroom, please speak to your child's teacher or to the Volunteer Coordinator. We can use volunteers for many different things including:

- leading small groups in reading and math instruction
- reading one-on-one with a child
- making copies
- cutting and creating materials
- help with special activities

Thank you for trusting us with your child's education this year. We take this responsibility very seriously and look forward to working with you and your child.

The Second Grade Team